

Alliance Point 4: Strengthen US/Mexican law enforcement cooperation and policy coordination, and ensure the safety of law enforcement officers.

ACTION	BASELINE As of 1 Feb 98	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	STATUS As of 31 Aug 99
<p>4.1. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will build effective and secure Bilateral Border Task Forces to facilitate the actions of the two governments, each operating within its respective jurisdiction, and to dismantle major drug trafficking organizations in both countries. The U.S. and Mexico will resolve pending issues by mutual agreement, with a view to accelerating the full development and operation of the Bilateral Border Task Forces. It will be the responsibility of the authorities in each country to act within the ambit of their respective jurisdictions.</p>	<p>The U.S and Mexico have established the Border Task Forces (BTF's) to accomplish Action Item 4.1.</p>	<p>Create new coordination sites in the U.S. to help improve U.S.-Mexico coordination, information sharing and agent safety. (See Action 4.3.)</p> <p>Delivery of technical and communication equipment that both the U.S. and Mexico agree should be provided to the Border Task Forces.</p> <p>Resolution of pending issues between the U.S. and Mexico in the areas of operations, information sharing and coordination.</p>	<p>Coordination sites operational by July 1999.</p> <p>Agreed upon technical and communication equipment delivered to the Border Task Forces.</p> <p>Degree of resolution of pending issues.</p>	<p>All three proposed information exchange sites have been established in the U.S. (San Diego, California, El Paso, Texas, and McAllen, Texas).</p> <p>In Mexico, Task Forces are located in Baja California, Colima, Chihuahua, Jalisco, Nuevo Leon, Sonora, and Tamaulipas and are fully operational.</p> <p>Agents of each country perform functions within their respective jurisdictions.</p> <p>The Information Exchange Sites (IES) have fostered the sharing of operational intelligence and significantly improved U.S./Mexico coordination.</p> <p>The U.S. and Mexico continue working on the improvement of existing coordination and information exchange systems, and on providing more equipment, staff, and financial support to these groups.</p> <p>The BTFs (MEX) and the IES (U.S.) exchange information on a regular basis.</p>

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4.1 (Con't)				<p>The Mexican GBF have participated in 81 investigations. The results of those investigations include the arrest of important members of the main illicit drug trafficking organizations and significant drug seizures.</p> <p>Both governments have supported these groups financially.</p>

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<p>4.1.1 The Government of Mexico and the U.S. Government will reach an accord on assigning, accrediting, and assuring the safety of Mexican and U.S. counterdrug agents assigned to the Border Task Forces.</p>	<p>The U.S. and Mexico have attempted to reach an accord on adequate safety measures for U.S. and Mexican agents assigned to the Border Task Forces.</p>	<p>The U.S. and Mexico should continue discussions with a view to reach an accord by July 1999 that would grant adequate safety for U.S. and Mexican agents assigned to the Border Task Forces.</p>	<p>Development of an accord.</p>	<p>U.S. and Mexican officials discussed law enforcement safety at the December 1998 HLCG and at the August 13, 1999 steering Group session in Washington D.C.</p> <p>*Although it occurred after the cut-off date for this evaluation, at the November 1999 HLCG the Principals directed the formation of a working committee to discuss technical issues related to the safety of law enforcement personnel. The committee, headed by the U.S. Embassy and the SRE, held its first meeting November 17, 1999.</p>

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<p>4.2. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will allocate sufficient funds and resources to conduct effective counterdrug investigations in their respective countries.</p>	<p>Both governments have increased funding for counterdrug investigations since 1997.</p>	<p>Both governments will continue to seek adequate funding to support counterdrug investigations in furtherance of the Bi-National Drug Strategy.</p>	<p>Allocation of funds.</p>	<p>Both governments have assigned a significant amount of resources to actions against drug trafficking, especially for counterdrug investigations. Special attention has been placed on funding for the BTF and other special units.</p> <p>Both governments have provided special support to these groups, particularly in the gathering and exchange of drug-related intelligence in 1999.</p>

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<p>4.3. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will expedite the secure exchange and sharing of sensitive law enforcement information regarding investigations of drug traffickers, with a view to streamlining established channels.</p>	<p>In July 1997, U.S. and Mexican officials agreed on a plan to create three coordination sites, in the U.S., which would promote U.S.-Mexico counterdrug cooperation on bilateral investigations.</p>	<p>Establishment of three coordination sites that are operational by July 1999.</p>	<p>Coordination sites operational, resulting in improved coordination and sharing between U.S. and Mexican agents.</p>	<p>Coordination sites are operational. In addition, Mexico and the U.S. have established several mechanisms for information exchange, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The High Level Contact Group, created in 1996 for the purpose of providing a high-level political framework conducive to bilateral cooperation. The HLCG has working groups that meet routinely to exchange information. -The Senior Law Enforcement Plenary, created in 1995 for the purpose of outlining strategies for information exchange and mutual legal counterdrug cooperation. -Existing PGR offices in the U.S. and offices of USG agencies in Mexico for the purpose of deepening cooperation and facilitating information exchange.

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<p>4.4. The Governments of Mexico and the U.S. will ensure the safety of the law enforcement personnel authorized or accredited in each country.</p>	<p>The GOM 1992 Rules of June and October governing foreign agents activities and presence in Mexico are currently in effect.</p> <p>No comparable rules for Mexican agents operating in the U.S. currently exist.</p> <p>The U.S. criminal code has provisions governing operations of foreign agents operating in the U.S.</p>	<p>By July 1999, the U.S. will develop operational guidelines for Mexican law enforcement personnel authorized or accredited in the United States. Guidelines will include elements regarding safety and security and operational procedures.</p>	<p>Establishment of operational guidelines similar to the GOM's 1992 Rules of June and October, that cover safety and security, enforcement guidelines, and information exchange.</p>	<p>GOM applies the following regulations regarding the security of law enforcement personnel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Regulations concerning the temporary stay of foreign government agents who perform police, inspection, and law enforcement activities in their countries, as well as specialized technicians (July 3, 1992). -Specific regulations concerning the activities of DEA agents and specialized technicians in Mexico (October 21, 1992). <p>USG is reviewing operational guidelines in the 1992 Rules of the Games to be potentially used as input for U.S. guidelines.</p>

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ACTION	BASELINE As of 1 Feb 98	TARGET	MEASUREMENT	STATUS As of 31 Aug 99
4.4.1 Both governments will maintain an explicit set of operating rules for agents authorized or accredited in the territory of each country.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.
4.4.1.1 The Rules of June and October 1992, which are currently in effect, will continue to apply.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.	See 4.4.